Notice of Allowability	Application No. 09/788,398	Applicant(s) YOURLO ET AL.	
	Examiner Anh Ly	Art Unit 2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *03/28/2005*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1, 4-10, 12-15 & 17-19 (renumbered as 1-16)*.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

JEAN M. CORRIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is response to Applicants' Response filed on 10/03/2005.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael K. O'Neil on Tuesday, 01/10/2006 @ 714-540-8700.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1:

1. (Currently Amended) A customisable data filter system adapted to reduce a dimension of, a searchable data base and to perform one or more of a database search and a data item selection, in relation to **the** correspondingly reduced search space, said system comprising:

a Portable Customisable data Filter and Interface (PCFM) comprising a programmable smartcard adapted to store at least a data filter parameter, and further adapted to provide a user interface **comprising** spatially distributed user selectable icons made visible on a surface of the smartcard;

a reader means adapted to interface with **the inserted PCFI's smartcard, the reader means having a touch screen** adapted **to allow user viewing and selection of said icons of the inserted smartcard, the reader being adapted to identify an**

icon selected by a user **on the inserted smartcard in user interaction with said touch screen;** and

database processing means adapted to interface with the reader means, said database processing means being **adapted to** (a) **establish the correspondingly reduced search space dependent upon the** filter parameter **of the inserted smartcard**, and (b) **to perform** one or more of the database search and the data item selection **dependent upon icons selected from the inserted smartcard;**

wherein said data filter parameter comprises a base filter parameter, and wherein the PCFI is adapted to store another filter parameter which is combinable with said base filter parameter to thereby enable further reduction of the dimension of the searchable data base.

Cancelled claim 2

Claim 4:

4. (Currently Amended) A method of customising a Portable Customisable data Filter and Interface (PCFII adapted to reduce a database search space, using a Portable Customisable User Interface (PCUI), wherein the PCFI and the PCUI respectively comprise a programmable smartcard providing a user interface including spatially distributed user selectable icons made visible on a surface of the smartcard, wherein the user selectable icons are operable using a smartcard reader **into** which the smartcard is **inserted, wherein the reader has a touch screen adapted to allow user viewing and selection of said icons of the inserted smartcard, the reader being**

adapted to identify an icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard in user interaction with said touch screen; said method comprising steps of:

interfacing a customising system to the PCFI and the PCUI using respective said smartcard readers;

identifying in user interaction with the touch screen of the smartcard reader into which the PCUI has been inserted, an icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard, said selected icon being associated with a corresponding user instruction; and

programming the PCFI by means of **said** user **instruction** being input to the customising system using the user interface of the PCUI.

Claim 5:

5. (Currently Amended) A method of customising a Portable Customisable data Filter and Interface (PCFM comprising a programmable smartcard providing a user interface including spatially distributed user selectable icons made visible on a surface of the smartcard, wherein the user selectable icons are operable using a smartcard reader **into** which the smartcard **is inserted, wherein the reader has a touch screen adapted to allow user viewing and selection of said icons of the inserted smartcard, the reader being adapted to identify an icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard in user interaction with said touch screen**, the PCFI being adapted to reduce a database search space; the method comprising the steps of:

interfacing a customising system to the PCFI using said smartcard reader;

identifying in user interaction with the touch screen of the smartcard reader into which the PCFI has been inserted, an icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard, said selected icon being associated with a corresponding user instruction; and

programming the PCFI by means of **said** user **instruction** being input to the customising system using the user interface of the PCFI.

Claim 6:

6. (Currently Amended) A Portable Customisable data Filter and Interface (PCFI) adapted to reduce a database search space, said PCFI comprising:

a programmable smartcard providing a user interface including at least one icon made visible on a surface of the smartcard, wherein the **at least one** icon is operable using a smartcard reader **into** which the smartcard **is inserted, wherein the reader has a touch screen adapted to allow user viewing and selection of said at least one icon of the inserted smartcard, the reader being adapted to identify said at least one icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard in user interaction with said touch screen;**

a first data filter parameter adapted to define the reduced said search space; and

a first rule adapted to define a second data filter parameter dependent upon the first data filter parameter.

Claim 10:

10. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing a dimension of a searchable data base, and performing at least one of a database search and a data item selection, in relation to a correspondingly reduced search space, said method comprising steps of:

configuring a Portable Customisable data Filter and Interface (PCFI) comprising a programmable smartcard adapted to store at least a data filter parameter, and further adapted to provide a user interface by means of spatially distributed user selectable icons made visible on a surface of the smartcard, **wherein said icons are operable using a smartcard reader into which the smartcard is inserted, wherein the reader has a touch screen adapted to allow user viewing and selection of said icons of the inserted smartcard, the reader being adapted to identify an icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard in user interaction with said touch screen;**

interconnecting the PCFI to a searchable database;

selecting one or more of said user selectable icons;

defining the reduced search space dependent upon said filter parameter;

performing at least one of a database search and a data item selection, in relation to said reduced search space, dependent upon said selection, **wherein said defining step comprises sub-steps of:**

reading the filter parameter, being a base filter parameter, from the PCFI;

applying the base filter parameter to the searchable database thereby to define the reduced search space; and wherein the step of performing one or more

of a database search and a data item selection is followed, if further search space reduction is desired, by further step of :

reading another filter parameter from the PCFI;

combining said other filter parameter with said base filter parameter; and

applying the combined filter parameters to the reduced search space thereby to define a further reduced search space.

Cancelled claim 11

Claim 13:

13. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for storing a program for apparatus which reduces a dimension of a searchable data base and performs one or more of a database search and a data item selection, in relation to a correspondingly reduced search space, said program comprising:

code for a configuring step for configuring a Portable Customisable data Filter and Interface (PCFI) comprising a programmable smartcard adapted to store at least a data filter parameter, and further adapted to provide a user interface by means of spatially distributed user selectable icons made visible on a surface of the smartcard, **wherein the icons are operable using a smartcard reader into which the smartcard is inserted, wherein the reader has a touch screen adapted to allow user viewing and selection of said icons of the inserted smartcard, the reader being adapted to identify an icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard in user interaction with said touch screen;**

code for an interconnecting step for interconnecting the PCFI to a searchable database;

code for a selection step responsive to selection of one or more of said user selectable icons;

code for a defining step for defining the reduced search space dependent upon said filter parameter; and

code for a database searching step and code for a data item selection step for performing at least one of a database search and a data item selection, in relation to said reduced search space, dependent upon said selection.

Claim 15:

15. (Currently Amended) A Portable Customisable data Filter and Interface (PCFI) adapted to reduce a database search space, the PCFI comprising:

a programmable smartcard that is operable using a smartcard reader to which the smartcard is connected, **the smartcard being adapted to provide a user-interface by means of spatially distributed user selectable icons made visible on a surface of the smartcard, wherein the icons are operable using a smartcard reader into which the smartcard is inserted, wherein the reader has a touch screen adapted to allow user viewing and selection of said icons of the inserted smartcard, the reader being adapted to identify an icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard in user interaction with said- touch screen;**

a base data filter parameter stored in a memory of the smartcard;

wherein when the PCFI is coupled to a database using the reader the search space of the database is reduced to a reduced search space according to the base data filter parameter; **said PCFI further comprising:**

a user interface including an icon made visible on a surface of the smartcard, wherein the icon is operable using the smartcard reader; and

a second data filter parameter associated with the icon and stored in the memory; wherein selection of the icon associated with the second data filter parameter causes the reduced search space established by the base data filter parameter to be further reduced in accordance with to the second data filter parameter.

Cancelled claim 16

3. Claims 1, 3-10, 12-15 and 17-19 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. The present application has been thoroughly reviewed. Upon searching a variety of databases, the examiner respectfully submits that claims 1, 3-10, 12-15 & 17-19 are allowed in light of the applicants' argument and in light of the prior arts of made record.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claimed invention is directed to methods, systems and portable customizable data filter and interface adapted to reduce a database search space. A programmable smartcard adapted store a data filter and provide a user interface including distributed user selectable icons visible on a surface of the smartcard. The reader means having a touch screen adapted to allow user viewing and selection of said icons of the inserted smartcard and the reader being adapted to identifying an icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard in user interaction with said touch screen.

The closest prior art, US Patent No.: 6,671,818 of Mikurak teaches a customizable interface to communicate with network, user who has a programmable smartcard would insert the smartcard to communicating with the system via smartcard reader and user would see the display with graphical user interface such as icons. Mikurak fails to teach "identifying in user interaction with the touch screen of the smartcard reader and an icon selected by a user on the inserted smartcard said selected icon being associated with a corresponding user instruction."

These distinct features, in conjunction with all other limitations of the dependents and independent claims render claims 1, 3-10, 12-15 & 17-19 [redacted] allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh Ly whose telephone number is (571) 272-4039 or via E-Mail: ANH.LY@USPTO.GOV **or fax to (571) 273-4039**. The examiner can normally be reached on TUESDAY – THURSDAY from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM.
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on (571) 272-4107 or **Primary Examiner Jean Corrielus (571) 272-4032.**

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see **http://pair-direct.uspto.gov**. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). Any response to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, or faxed to: Central Fax Center **(571) 273-8300**

ANH LY
JAN. 10th, 2006

JEAN M. CORRIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER